

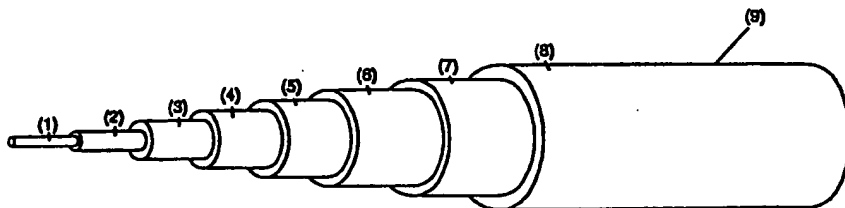
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU97/00696 (22) International Filing Date: 16 October 1997 (16.10.97) (30) Priority Data: PO 3072 18 October 1996 (18.10.96) AU (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ERICO LIGHTNING TECHNOLOGIES PTY. LTD. [AU/AU]; Technopark, Dowsings Point, TAS 7001 (AU). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GUMLEY, Stephen, John [AU/AU]; 420 Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay, TAS 7005 (AU). GUMLEY, John, Richard [AU/AU]; 428 Manuka Road, Kettering, TAS 7155 (AU). BURROWS, Brian, J., C. [GB/GB]; East Wilden, Brook Street, Sutton Courteney, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4AN (GB). (74) Agent: CARTER SMITH & BEADLE; Qantas House, 2 Railway Parade, Camberwell, VIC 3124 (AU).	(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	

(54) Title: AN IMPROVED LIGHTNING DOWNCONDUCTOR



(57) Abstract

A lightning downconductor (9) forming part of a lightning protection system, the downconductor (9) has an upper end connected to a lightning collector (10) through an upper termination device (11) and a lower end connected to an earthing system (15) through a lower termination (14). The downconductor (9) comprises an inner electrical conductor (3), an insulating layer (5) surrounding the inner electrical conductor (3), a resistive semi-conductive layer (6) surrounding the insulating layer (5) and a conductive layer (7) surrounding the resistive semi-conductive layer (6). A length of the conductive layer (7) is omitted or removed from the upper end of the downconductor (9) adjacent the upper termination device (11) to expose the resistive semi-conductive layer (6) as an outer layer of the downconductor (9).